

29th May, 1935

Whately Carington Esq.,  
Calandstraat 64,  
ROTTERDAM

Dear Whately Carington.

The question of the identification of John seems so important that I am particularly sorry not to be able to follow exactly, the steps of your test. I suppose satisfactory evidence must be of two kinds: (1) To show that John S and John L are (if they are), as much alike as duplicate tests on the same living personality are ordinarily found to be. (2) To show that this resemblance is higher than exists between trance personalities acting through different mediums - ideally through the ~~same~~ different mediums, though this is presumably impossible, the control trance personalities being, of course, of the same sex, and in other respects as similar as possible in descriptive characterisa<sup>tion,</sup> e.g., if one could find Medium A controlled by, let us say, a deceased soldier called Herbert, and medium B controlled by a different deceased soldier called Wilfred, the case for identifying John S and John L would be strengthened if they were more like each other in reaction times, etc., than Herbert and Wilfred.

But you have thought, I believe, much more thoroughly

(2)

on the problem of establishing an identity between two manifestations of the same personality.

If you want me to try and find a fault in the precognitive results, send me a summary of the data containing the evidence which you regard as relevant. I say "try to find a fault," because that, of course, is what one does in seeking for more rigorous tests of the significance of any apparently anomalous result.

Yours sincerely,